

# Feminist Ledger

WEDNESDAY  
March 1, 1917

## GYPSY TRUST INVESTS CITY; CONS MONEY

Victims Told Ware Dark-Faced Men and Yellow Man Particularly

### PALMISTS DEFY STATUTE

#### Pennsylvania Law on Fortune Telling

**PENALTY FOR PRETENDING TO PREDICT FUTURE EVENTS, ETC.:** Any person who shall pretend, for gain or lucre, to predict future events, by cards, tokens, the inspection of the hand or hands of any person, or by any one's age, or by consulting the movements of the heavenly bodies; or who shall, for gain or lucre, pretend to effect any purpose by spells, charms, necromancy or incantation, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by any Court of Quarter Sessions in this commonwealth with any term of imprisonment, not less than ten days, and a fine of not more than one hundred, nor less than ten dollars; the second offense, with any term of imprisonment, not less than fifteen days, and a fine of not more than two hundred, nor less than fifty dollars, as the court may deem proper. Act of April 8, 1861, P. L. 270.

Men whose features are dark and a man who is yellow-faced are somewhere in Philadelphia today hatching plots against human lives.

This is the consensus of opinion of a band of gypsy fortune tellers. They are believed to be members of a so-called "gypsy fortune-telling trust." At least 5000 persons are believed to visit the "studios," the "gyppies daily." The revenue taken in daily at the "store houses" of these gyppies is estimated to be in the neighborhood of \$7500 or more daily or close to \$250,000 a week.

The gypsy fortune tellers, most of whom are pretty young women, arrived here within the last few weeks. Some of them speak five or six languages. Their "studios" are located in the residential as well as business sections of the city. They ply their trade often almost under the noses of police officers. In fact, a law has been passed in this State a long time ago. The law prescribes a prison sentence as well as a fine upon persons who make such a practice.

**IN HEART OF CITY**  
One of the "studios" is located at the northeast corner of Seventh and Market streets. Two gypsy women are there. One of them is about twenty-two years old. Her eyes are dark and her cheeks have a ruddy color. Her companion, who is middle-aged, sits alongside her younger companion. Both sit on a little bench which is located in a little shed. The bench is a short distance from the curbstone. The women, walls are placarded with sheets and posters. On these appears the announcement that the past and future is explained. And the price is only ten cents—two for the two women.

"Come in, mister—we tell your fortune some on in-ten ten cents," the young woman almost shouts.

As the visitor enters the little shanty with a traffic squad policeman standing in the doorway, he is asked to walk behind a red curtain. The money is drawn over. Once this is done the visitor is not visible to the outside world. He is there with the bronze-complexioned gypsy. The gypsy, who is a well-dressed man, remains on her bench outside.

"Sit down and let me see your right hand," she says.

"Mr. Philadelphia" or a visitor to this studio is asked to take a coin out of his right-hand pocket. He obeys. But if the coin he brings forth is of a small denomination he is asked to bring forth the coin. The money is taken from him. He is asked to bring forth the coin. The money is taken from him. He is asked to bring forth the coin. The money is taken from him.

**EXTRACTION OF THE COIN**  
But the orders—or commands—from the gyppies do not come to an end here. He is asked to unbutton his coat or overcoat. "Open your pocketbook and take out all the money and let me hold it," says the gypsy. Sometimes the visitor obeys. If he doesn't he is warned that devils are around. But the gyppies know that as a rule the two women announce to passers-by "Superstitious Persons" always give in.

While the twenty-two-year-old gypsy girl holds the wallet, coin and paper money in her right hand, she begins her task—her test of the visitor's fortune. She reads the fortune of the visitor. She reads the fortune of the visitor. She reads the fortune of the visitor.

"Give me all your money," says the visitor. "What do you want—money, misery or life," answers the gypsy.

"Money and life," replies the visitor. "Ha, my dear friend you can't have both. You can have only one thing, or pick your wish."

## BILL TO BACK THREAT OF CITY-RUN TRANSIT

Seger Submits Measure for Chestnut Street Subway at Mayor's Instance

A further move to prepare the way for either independent or municipal operation of the city's high-speed system if no satisfactory case can be made with the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company is being made in Councils this afternoon when Chairman Seger of the Street Railway Committee, introduced an ordinance authorizing the city to construct a subway in Chestnut street.

This subway would make a direct physical connection between the Frankford and Darby elevated lines and at Chestnut and Broad streets would pass directly over the city's Broad street tube, thereby making the entire high-speed system constructed by the city one unit so far as operation and direct connection of lines is concerned.

The purpose of this ordinance is to provide for any contingency which may arise in the negotiations over the proposed lease. It is being introduced at the direction of the Mayor, who made it plain upon his return from Florida yesterday that unless a fair and equitable agreement with the Transit Company can be effected he will favor municipal or independent operation of the new system.

Mr. Seger's ordinance was entitled "An ordinance to authorize the construction and improvement of a subway railway to be located mainly under Chestnut street, as a connection between the elevated railways leading to Frankford and to Darby and providing for the payment of interest and sinking fund charges thereon."

It was referred to the Committee on Street Railways for action. The action which this committee takes will probably depend upon the developments which follow the publication of Director Twining's report.

The \$77,100,000 transit loan bill passed last year appropriated \$5,000,000 for the Chestnut street subway. This amount will be inadequate to complete the line, however, and in the event the construction is finally determined upon nearly \$4,000,000 additional will be needed.

The Mayor's present program is to frame such amendments to the proposed lease as the report of Director Twining and that of Ford Bacon & Davis justify, submit these to the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company for consideration and then give the company ninety days, as required by law, to accept or reject them.

The Mayor's estimate also that independent interests have already made overtures to the city for the operation of the new system. Just who these interests are he would not say, but it is understood that the Philadelphia and Suburban Railway Company, which several years ago tried to build a high-speed system here, will be among those to consider the matter.

## CORNELL MEN GET \$1277 TOWARD ALUMNI FUND

Teams Well Pleased With Showing in Canvass for \$100,000—End Saturday

There is every indication that the "old grads" in Philadelphia will make a good showing in the national campaign of the Cornell Alumni to raise a fund of \$100,000.

Edward H. Fitch, commander-in-chief of the local forces engaged in the campaign, announced at a luncheon at the Cornell Club, 1517 Sanson street, that annual pledges in this city of \$1277 had been made since the opening of the campaign on March 1. There are indications that this amount will be greatly increased before the closing of the campaign on Saturday night.

The team under Captain E. A. Steele, which has raised \$1277 of annual pledges, has made the highest record up to the present time. The team under the direction of W. S. Pearce is second.

Harold Flack, secretary of the alumni campaign, who is taking a prominent part in the canvass, is highly optimistic concerning the results.

## BETROTHED PAIR DEFY WAR AND WAR RUMORS

Engagement of Miss Grubmeyer, of Germantown, and Mr. von Normann, of Germany, Announced

International troubles do not disturb the plans and plans of Dan Cupid.

## Pall of Fog Shrouds City in Darkness

Continued from Page One  
March to enter like a sick lion instead of a lamb.

It was undoubtedly a lion that the weather represented, but it was a decrepit lion, sneaking in silently with soft paws and a dripping mane. No roaring or fang-sharpness of winds accompanied its entrance.

There was nothing noble about it. Murky and soggy, half-warm and half-cold, the day and the month began with a temperature hovering around thirty-four degrees. Traces of rain and snow, sprinkled with slush, were on the ground and traces of snow and rain, sprinkled with slush, were in the air.

It was more like a spectral lion than one of flesh and blood. The sky held an ominous tinge, as if foreboding a disaster. A faint, sickly sun, which the Mayor sees before the typhoon or the desert Arab before the sandstorm. It spoke of cyclones or earthquakes. The barometer hung low, humidity choked the atmosphere and an east wind buffeted weakly.

The Weather Bureau attempted to laugh when asked whether or not March came in officially like a lion. "It may be that," it said, "but it is the evasive answer."

According to the old proverb, March will leave like a lamb.

## PENROSE SUGGESTS STONE AS CHAPLAIN PRO TEM

Missouri Senator Rebukes Pennsylvania's Levy in Face of Serious Matters

By a Staff Correspondent  
WASHINGTON, March 1.—That Senator Stone, of Missouri, known as "Gumshoe Bill," act as chaplain of the Senate in the absence of the Rev. J. Forrest Prentissman, was suggested today by Senator Penrose, of Pennsylvania.

"If no chaplain is present," said Penrose, "I would ask the Senator from Missouri or some other Senator of a pious turn of mind and religious bringing up to act as chaplain of the Senate."

"I will not indulge in frivolity," said Senator Stone, "on such a serious question as that suggested by the Senator, that so unworthy a Senator should act as chaplain of the Senate. Possibly the Senator from Pennsylvania will violate the precedent in that regard."

## PLAN MOVE TO DEPORT FOREIGN FOOD RIOTERS

Congressman Edmonds Asks Probe Regarding Leaders in Disturbances Here and Elsewhere

WASHINGTON, March 1.—Representative Edmonds, of Philadelphia, after studying the causes and inciters of so-called bread riots in Philadelphia and New York, today introduced a resolution aimed to prevent such uprisings to some degree. His resolution calls for an investigation by the Department of Labor to determine whether foreigners in most cases have not led the riots. This was true especially in New York and Philadelphia.

In case the leaders have been foreigners and they have preached lawlessness and anarchy, they are subject to deportation under section 19 of the immigration act.

## Wills Admitted to Probate

Wills probated today were those of Betsey Adamson, 1122 North Sixty-third street, which in private bequests disposed of property valued at \$81,000; Elizabeth Hammer, 3613 North 31st street, \$18,000; G. Lloyd Kaesthauf, 1623 Duncannon street, \$14,500; Mary C. McKeown, 1729 South Front street, \$5300; E. Walter White, 5691 Lansdowne avenue, \$5000; Jacob Muncie, 4331 North Franklin street, \$4700; and Adelaide B. Parham, 1549 Fairview avenue, \$4000.

## Increase in Rates Forbidden

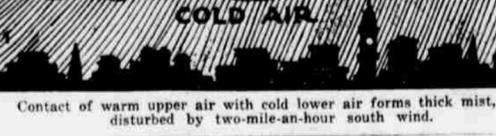
WASHINGTON, March 1.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today refused to hold reasonable the proposed increase in rail and lake and lake and rail class rates which in private bequests disposed of property valued at \$81,000; Elizabeth Hammer, 3613 North 31st street, \$18,000; G. Lloyd Kaesthauf, 1623 Duncannon street, \$14,500; Mary C. McKeown, 1729 South Front street, \$5300; E. Walter White, 5691 Lansdowne avenue, \$5000; Jacob Muncie, 4331 North Franklin street, \$4700; and Adelaide B. Parham, 1549 Fairview avenue, \$4000.

## Cuban Chiefs Yield to Menocal

HAVANA, March 1.—Rafael Buralde, former Governor of Matanzas Province, and his brother, who had joined the revolution, today announced their surrender to President Menocal, surrendered today to their followers. They had been declared outlaws and their fate is problematical. President Menocal's announcement of the surrender of Buralde and Santiago was generally welcomed by residents of both cities. A United States destroyer arrived in Havana harbor this morning.

## DARKNESS EXPLAINED BY DIAGRAM

WARM AIR THICK FOG FORMED BY CONDENSATION COLD AIR



Contact of warm upper air with cold lower air forms thick mist, undisturbed by two-mile-an-hour south wind.

## FOUR LOST IN TAXICAB PLUNGING INTO HARBOR

Actress, Two Cabaret Dancers and Pittsburgher Killed. Chauffeur Held

BALTIMORE, March 1.—Four persons met death in the icy waters of the harbor early today when the taxicab in which they were riding plunged over the bulkhead at the foot of Quay street.

The dead were: Mrs. Mary E. White, 30-year-old, actress; E. L. Gordon, merchant of Pittsburgh; Annie McKay Rogers, twenty-seven-year-old, New York cabaret dancer; and Mary Woods, twenty-eight-year-old, New York cabaret dancer. The chauffeur, Edward Meyers, was arrested this afternoon, charged with driving a car into the harbor and causing the death of Misses Rogers, King and Woods and Mr. Gordon.

The party met by appointment at Dixon's Park. Here they took a taxi for a hotel in the center of the city. From here the story can best be told in the words of Miss Anna Luce, who on the stage is known as Anna Burnett, as she sat in her room being nursed by friends. "Everything had been going nicely and we were going along at a moderate speed," she said. "Suddenly the chauffeur turned off and I called to him: 'Hey, where are we going?' That's all right," he said. "I'm taking a short cut to the hotel." It was then that I saw the water. Suddenly we hit something. The rear of the machine lifted. I was thrown forward. There was a splash. Then darkness came over everything. It was a matter of minutes before I was in the water. I was on my head, and every one was piling on top of me. Water was rushing in.

Edna King called out to me saying, 'Clayton, Clayton.' She could not swim and was drowned. Miss Luce and Miss King last week figured in a fire in a hotel in Harrisburg. Both had narrow escapes.

## LITTLE AND BRYANT BECOME FARMER LADS

Footballers to Till Mullica Hill Soil With Follwell as Overseer

Low Little, star tackle and all-eastern football player, and Jimmy Bryant, sub-quarterback on last year's eleven, today turned their backs on Old Penn and departed for the country, where they will work on a farm. The Red and Blue athletes will labor with the cows and chickens, pull up a few trees and make themselves generally useful about the place from sunrise to sunset, which are the union hours of the agriculturists.

The sudden shift of scene occurred this morning when Robert C. Follwell, a wealthy landowner of Mullica Hill, N. J., drove into town in his high-powered touring car in search of a couple of luskus laborers to keep things going around his extensive estate. The docks were deserted, no one made his way to the university, where he discovered Little and Bryant. Little and Bryant will be eligible to begin their college careers in the fall. Little is a member of the football team and Bryant is a member of the basketball team. They are both in excellent shape to start the season.

## NAVY YARD ORDERED TO ARM FREIGHTERS

Three-Inch Guns to Be Placed on Merchantmen, Reported From Washington

Orders from Washington to arm all merchantmen with three-inch naval guns were received at the Philadelphia Navy Yard this afternoon, according to unofficial reports.

The general hustle and bustle in the yard indicated that something unusual had happened. It is understood that the instruction has caused considerable confusion for the reason that the yard has no three-inch naval guns with the exception of those which are carried by the three discarded cruisers, Indiana, Iowa and Massachusetts.

These guns will be removed from the ships. It is said, and placed aboard the first steamer that leaves the port. The instruction is believed to have been issued by the War Department. The only guns at the yard which might be used for such an emergency are the twenty-four five-inch siege guns of the present type. The authorities want the merchantmen unless special guns were built and alterations were made in the guns.

It is believed that the orders from Washington were sent out to navy yards generally and that arrangements for shortages of guns have been taken care of by the Government. Officials at the yard refused to deny or affirm the report of the order to arm the merchantmen here. Commanders of many craft which have been awaiting the result of the present crisis, and asserted they were much enthusiastic and asserted they would again start their voyages across the Atlantic the day the guns were received.

## Fixes "Boys' Day" in Jersey

TRENTON, N. J., March 1.—Governor Edge today issued his formal proclamation setting aside Sunday, March 25, as "Boys' Day" for the State. The encouragement of the "big brother" movement is one of the aims of this observance, so that fathers may take more of an interest in the affairs of their sons.

## MAYOR PREPARES TO BOST WAGES

Smith and Gaffney to Start Finance Plan in Councils Today

### SEEK APPROPRIATIONS

Will Ask \$10,000 for Executive's Expenses and \$7500 for Honoring Guards

So certain are Mayor Smith and his financial adviser, Chairman Gaffney, of Councils Finance Committee, that they will be able to provide sufficient funds for a number of projects which have been reported to the Councils Finance Committee. The transfer bill provides \$10,000 for the Mayor's department, \$500 for the entertainment of returning troops from the border, \$1200 for expenses of Legislative Committee and many other items.

As the various salary-raising bills have not as yet been reported by the Finance Committee, they will be over for action at future meetings of Councils. The plan is to secure the money for the Finance Committee by the Finance Committee. The reason given for their not being reported today was that the increases in the county offices have not as yet been definitely decided upon. The Finance Committee will be over for action at future meetings of Councils. The plan is to secure the money for the Finance Committee by the Finance Committee.

Controller Walton, in a letter to Councils, called attention to the fact that this year's appropriations are \$7,000,000 in excess of those for 1916, and suggests that by careful revision sums in excess of actual needs be secured to apply to salary and wage increases. The Controller offered his services in an effort to bring about a revision.

At the same time he advised Councils that an appropriation of \$25,017.14 to pay for the new salary roll is invalid, for the reason that the fund was part of a loan.

It was proposed to use this money for salary increases. Chairman Gaffney is confident that enough money is available for salary increases without resorting to the suggestion made by the Controller.

## FOR "L" STATIONS

One of the most important bills passed today selects and appropriates and directs the City Solicitor to acquire twenty-two properties located in the Twentieth, Twenty-fifth, Thirty-first, Thirty-third and Forty-fifth Wards as sites for stations for the elevated railway from Front and Arch streets to the corner of Kensington avenue and Tioga street, in the Forty-fifth Ward.

Measures providing for land condemnation proceedings as a rule that an unfunded debt and a charge against the city's borrowing capacity. The twenty-two plots to be taken for transit do not come in this class of bills, as the purchase price for all the properties will come from the loan fund.

Other measures passed provide for opening of Lehigh street from the corner of O street to the west side of Adams avenue and to authorize the purchase of a lot of ground on the east side of Twenty-eighth street in the Twenty-ninth Ward.

## ASKS \$10,000 TRANSFER FOR CITY HALL WORKERS

Councils Get Measure Providing Full Time for Mechanics—\$5500 for Motortruck

Among the financial measures introduced into Councils today was a transfer of \$10,000 in the Bureau of City Property to provide full wages for City Hall mechanics who were to have been put on part time had the money not been found by the State House. The appropriation of \$5500 to the Bureau of Water for a new motortruck.

A petition to Chairman Gaffney sent by sixty-eight attendants at the Philadelphia Exchange and the Philadelphia Mechanics' Association, who are to be paid full wages for the workers at the institution, has not received any pay for January or February. The petition asserts this condition is due to "laxity and carelessness in methods of the State House in taking action on the matter referred to the Finance Committee for action."

## STATE HOUSE COMMISSION BILL VETOED BY MAYOR

In a message Mayor Smith returned without his approval an ordinance which authorizes the creation of a board of commissioners "to have the care and control of the State House and the State House Annexes, Congress Hall and old City Hall with the collections contained in the group."

## More Lights for Woodland Avenue

The erection of forty-six electric lights on Woodland avenue between Forty-eighth and Fifty-first streets is provided in an ordinance introduced by Common Councilman Jacob Massey, of the Fortieth Ward. The measure carries an appropriation of \$2000 and urges that the lights be placed by May 1. The ordinance has the approval of the Woodland Avenue Business Men's Association. It was referred to the Light Commission.

## POTATOES KEPT ON SIDINGS HERE

At Least 85,000 Bushels Said to Be Held for Demurrage Charges

### COST GREATLY INCREASED

Chamber of Commerce Official Reports Conditions Leading to High Prices

At least 115 cars of potatoes, or about 85,000 bushels, are being held by Philadelphia potato dealers on freight sidings within the city, according to James P. Wilson, superintendent of the Transportation Bureau of the Chamber of Commerce. Wilson made a report today at the meeting of an agricultural committee, which is investigating problems in the high cost of living.

"All of these cars are being held under demurrage charges," said Wilson. "The demurrage charges on one of these cars of potatoes has increased to the point where approximately \$700 in value, the demurrage cost will figure out at about one cent a bushel per day."

"The reason of the consignors of the potatoes could not be determined, said Wilson, because the railroad companies are not permitted to give them.

N. B. Kelly, general secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, was held back today by the agricultural committee to take up the matter of food investigations which Mayor Smith reported that the Mayor had appointed a committee to study the food situation aside from the ordinary cooperation with the municipal department directly concerned in the matter.

Thomas C. Harbison, chairman of the agricultural committee, said there is no question in his mind that dealers and speculators are holding food and produce for an advance in price.

DEALERS DENY HOARDING  
Commission men and produce dealers generally disagree with reports that the cold-storage warehouses of this city are hoarding food. They say that the reports submitted to the State House are probably a month old, and that the month makes a big difference in the storage supply of certain foods at this season of the year.

If all shipments of food were cut off from outside supply points and the city were forced to depend entirely on the storage supply, the people of Philadelphia would not last much more than a week. The commission and storage men say. Eggs, for instance, would all be eaten up in a few days and butter might last three weeks. Potatoes would not last much more than a week. The only guess at, because they say there are no statistics of the amounts in storage.

Not recorded by CATELL, J. J. Cattel, city statistician, who keeps records of everything in Philadelphia that can be recorded, says he has never been able to gather statistics on food, because appetites vary and because so much produce is brought into the city by farmers and small quantities that are not kept track of.

J. S. Morris, president of the Philadelphia Produce Exchange, Front and Chestnut streets, said the supply of food in storage is like a housewife's cupboard, which would soon be bare if she bought no new supplies every few days. To say that the warehouses are filled with supplies and that the prices are unfair, he said.

"The storage supply of eggs in Philadelphia would not last more than three or four days if no new supplies came in; but it might last two or four weeks; potatoes, an old, would not last more than a week."

"The persons who attempt to poison public opinion against the cold storage men are not practical nor honest. The storage business is a matter of life and death. It is a matter of preservation and equalization of the market. People in cities could not be fed nowadays without the storage houses."

S. Daniels, secretary of the Produce Exchange and of the Philadelphia Mechanics' Association, is obliged to maintain a certain amount of their stocks for the supply of hotels and other large consumers who make contracts for the season. Philadelphia warehouses are full of a surplus of goods, as some are in the Middle West, he said.

The report of the State Department of Agriculture, which was presented yesterday to the House of Representatives in reply to the condition of Pennsylvania's food supply, showed that the cold-storage houses still hold a large supply of certain foods in spite of the fact that immense quantities of produce are being brought into the city. The report showed that many sources of supply have been exhausted.

In the ten cold storage houses in the city according to the House of Representatives report, there are 428,173 pounds of meat, 4,695,062 pounds of poultry, 1,632,011 pounds of fish, 6,000,901 pounds of butter, 35,394 pounds of eggs out of shell, 21,000,000 pounds of apples, 1,000,000 pounds of pears and 472 packages of vegetables.

According to reports today from Lancaster and other potato shipping centers, the Philadelphia dealers have notified the State House that they have no more potatoes to ship any more potatoes at any price because the market here is overstocked and prices, which have already dropped twenty-five cents a bushel, are likely to go lower.

George W. Cross, a potato dealer, said he is unable to dispose of his present stock of potatoes because the market has been ruined by the newspaper agitation of recent days.

## COUNCILS ROW OVER ITEM INSERTED IN FUND BILL

Declared Sum of \$1200 Placed in Appropriation Measure After Drafting

The mysterious appearance of an item of \$1200 in an appropriation bill which had not appeared in the measure when it was brought before the Finance Committee this afternoon, has caused a row in Councils. The item, which was to pay the expenses of the Councils' Committee on Legislation that looked after legislation, was taken up by Harry at Harrisburg, brought much anger.

When the ordinance was introduced Councilman Harry Trainer jumped to his feet and said the item had been inserted in the bill and demanded that it be stricken out. He declared that it was illegal and illegal. Mr. Seger, of the Seventeenth Ward, made similar assertions, and was a chorus of approval from other members of the Finance Committee. The vote was taken on Trainer's motion and was defeated 20 to 18.

At this time Select Councilman Hexagon Heston, of the Fifteenth Ward, demanded an investigation of the item. He was charged by Isaac Heston, of the Eighteenth Ward. Nevertheless, the entire appropriation bill went to a vote and was inserted in the bill. Mr. Trainer said he did not know.

## Simendinger La Salle Captain

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Kenneth Simendinger was elected captain of the La Salle football team this year. He is a member of the La Salle Athletic Club and is a member of the La Salle Athletic Club. He is a member of the La Salle Athletic Club and is a member of the La Salle Athletic Club.